

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated July 22, 2010. Claims 1 to 13, 16 to 28 and 31 to 34 are pending in the present application. Claims 14, 15, 29, 30 and 35 stand previously withdrawn. Claims 1 to 13, 16 to 28 and 31 to 34 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added by such amendments. Claims 1, 16 and 31 are in independent form. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for all payments due in connection with this Response.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1 to 13, 16 to 28 and 31 to 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0185128 to Shoji, et al. (“Shoji”). In view of the amendments made herein, Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections.

Shoji discloses an optical disc and a reproduction method, reproduction apparatus, and recording apparatus. The Abstract of Shoji discloses:

An optical disk, and a method and apparatus for reproducing and/or recording data to the disk are provided for preventing illegal copying of authorized disks recording copyrighted digital content. The optical disk 10 has a control area 12 for storing control data, a data area 14 for storing main digital data (content), and an identification area 13 for storing sub-digital data specific to the main digital data. The sub-digital data is recorded as a pit sequence at a locally phase modulated clock timing. When disk identification data is recorded as the sub-digital data, key information stored to the reproduction apparatus is compared with identification data (sub-digital data) detected from jitter fluctuations in the identification area 13 when content is reproduced from the optical disk 10. If a specific correlation is thus confirmed, the disk is recognized as a legally copied disk and reproduction is enabled. Illegal copies can thus be prevented.

Paragraph [0415] of Shoji discloses:

The present embodiment encrypts each block using an encryption key specific to that block, but the invention shall not be so limited. For example, the user data could be segmented into a plurality of recording data units, each recording data unit containing a specific number of recording data bytes or recording data in a specific area related to the track, ECC block, sector, or other physical recording structure of the disk. Each recording data unit is then encrypted with an encryption key specific to that recording data unit. User data security is further strengthened as the number of encryption keys increases.

It appears that the Office Action would interpret Shoji’s encryption keys as the first unit key, the second unit key, and the third unit key of Claim 1. Applicant submits that none of Shoji’s encryption keys correspond to a content management unit to which information obtained

from an information recording medium does not belong. That is, Shoji does not disclose a recording medium interface configured to read data from an information recording medium which stores data in increments of: (a) a first content management unit which includes first encrypted data that is encrypted by a first unit key that is set as a first encryption key; and (b) a second content management unit which includes second encrypted data that is encrypted by a second unit key that is set as a second, different encryption key; and a memory device storing instructions which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to: (a) record new data which is either generated or obtained applying information obtained from the information recording medium; (b) obtain at least one of: (i) the first unit key, the first unit key corresponding to the first content management unit to which the obtained information belongs; and (ii) a third, different unit key which corresponds to a third, different content management unit to which the obtained information does not belong.

On the other hand, the information processing device of Claim 1 includes, among other elements, a recording medium interface configured to read data from an information recording medium which stores data in increments of: (a) a first content management unit which includes first encrypted data that is encrypted by a first unit key that is set as a first encryption key; and (b) a second content management unit which includes second encrypted data that is encrypted by a second unit key that is set as a second, different encryption key; and a memory device storing instructions which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to: (a) record new data which is either generated or obtained applying information obtained from the information recording medium; (b) obtain at least one of: (i) the first unit key, the first unit key corresponding to the first content management unit to which the obtained information belongs; and (ii) a third, different unit key which corresponds to a third, different content management unit to which the obtained information does not belong.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 is patentably distinguished over Shoji and in condition for allowance. Dependent Claims 2 to 13 depend either directly or indirectly from amended independent Claim 1 and are also allowable for the reasons given with respect to Claim 1 and because of the additional features recited in these claims.

Independent Claims 16 and 31 each include certain similar elements to independent Claim 1. For reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to independent Claim 1,

independent Claims 16 and 31 (and dependent Claims 17 to 28 and 32 to 34) are each patentably distinguished over Shoji and in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance, and allowance is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

K&L GATES LLP

BY

Thomas C. Basso

Reg. No. 46,541

Customer No. 29175

Phone: (312) 807-4310

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